

Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Personnel

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
IN BOARD OF FF PERSONNEL STANDARDS & EDUCATION**

WAYNE TWP FIRE DEPARTMENT
700 N. HIGH SCHOOL ROAD
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46214

APRIL 7, 2003

A. Pursuant to IC 22-12-3-6, the regular scheduled meeting of the IN Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education convened at 10:00 a.m. with Chairperson Paul Covington presiding:

a. The following Board members were present:

M. Tracy Boatwright
Paul Covington
Patrick Donoghue
Charles (Don) Hall
Thomas Hanify
Jerry Nulliner
Patrick Ralston
Darrick Scott

b. The following Board members were absent:

Bernice Clark
Jack Kerney
Tom Loraine

c. Also present

Harold McCard, New Haven Fire Department
Michael Schuerman, Ft. Wayne Fire Department
Maynard Masters, Emergency Books and Training
Judge Teegarden, Administrative Law Judge
Mara Snyder, Counsel
Ivan Nevil, Administrator Fire Academy
James Schneider, Training Officer PSTI
Randy Wood, Haz Mat Administrator PSTI
Marilyn Burgess, Program Coordinator

B. Roll Call was taken with a quorum of eight

C. Minutes of March 3, 2003 Regular Business Meeting; Monthly statistical report for February and March 2003.

a. Darrick Scott made a motion to approve the March 3, 2003 minutes as printed and distributed. Patrick Donoghue seconded the motion. Motion carried

b. Charles Hall made a motion to approve the February and March statistical reports as printed and approved. Marshal Boatwright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

D. Variances, Hearings and Appeals

a. **Troy Jester** - a member of the Auburn Fire Department, requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 Fire Officer III based upon having completed and receiving his degree in Applied Fire Science from Ivy Tech State College. He does meet all prerequisites for this level of certification. The staff recommends approval at the requested level.

Marshal Boatwright made a motion to approve the variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 for Fire Officer III. Patrick Donoghue seconded the motion. Motion carried.

b. **Aaron Brown**, a member of the Knight Twp. Fire Department in Vanderburg County requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-6 Driver Operator Pumper based on having completed and receiving a certificate from Illinois Fire Marshal. The staff recommends approval.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to approve the variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-6 for Driver Operator Pumper with the condition that if he desires IFSAC accreditation he must take the IN written and practical. Marshal Boatwright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

c. **Aaron Brown**, a member of the Knight Twp. F.D. in Vanderburg County requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 Instructor I based on having completed and receiving a certificate from Illinois State Fire Marshal. The staff recommends approval.

Marshal Boatwright made a motion to approve the variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 for Instructor I with the condition that if he desires IFSAC certification he must take the Indiana written and practical. Director Ralston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

d. **Aaron Brown**, a member of the Knight Twp. F.D. in Vanderburg County requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-20 Instructor II based on having completed and receiving a certificate from Illinois State Fire Marshal. Staff recommended approval for Instructor II/III based on the course syllabus.

Marshal Boatwright made a motion to approve the variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-20 for Instructor II/III with the condition that if IFSAC accreditation is desired, he must take the IN written and practicals.

Director Ralston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

e. Jacquie Abbott, a member of the Elkhart Fire Department, requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-15 Investigator I. She has attended several classes at the Michigan State Police Training Academy and received a certificate from them. The staff recommends approval based on courses covered in Michigan.

Marshal Boatwright made a motion to approve the variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-15 Investigator I with the condition that if she desires IFSAC accreditation she must take the IN written and practical. Charles Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried with 1 member, Jerry Nulliner, being opposed.

E. Report by Patrick R. Ralston, Executive Director, SEMA/DFBS/PSTI

Director Ralston reported the Statewide Mutual Aid bill would be heard in the Legislature this afternoon.

There has been a second meeting for the Continuity of Government Operations Plan. This plan will be in two phases.

Work is also progressing on how to divide up among the counties the 2003 Grant money that we received through the Department of Justice.

Also the 2003 supplemental grant which the President should sign this week, involves \$30 - \$35 million dollars. This money will go a long way to help the First Responders buy equipment as well as provide for training.

The agency is getting ready to start on a strategic plan that is required by the Department of Justice that will be on a county by county basis, so it will be very important that all counties participate.

Grissom Reuse Authority is going to look at creating some kind of training institute at the facility. It is a possibility they will partner with Purdue University. The May 22, 2003 meeting of the Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education Board meeting will be held at the Grissom Aeroplex, along with the Emergency Response Commission and the Public Safety Training Institute Board.

F. State Fire Marshal Report M. Tracy Boatwright

FDIC was a big success. Mike Bigler and Ivan Nevil, along with other workers, staffed a booth.

The specs have gone out on the equipment for the Fire Service.

The Fire Marshal's office has 17 SENS-IR machines coming in that detect Anthrax and a number of other things. There will be one given to each of the 11 regional teams that will

be responding to terrorist incidents, four in the Marshal's office for the Haz Mat people and one will be assigned to the Government Center building to respond to incidents.

House Bill #1106 - The Volunteer Firefighter Training - The synopsis of the Bill says requires successful completion of a minimum of 1 hour training on personal vehicle emergency response driving safety procedures. This bill should be on second reading.

House Bill #1131 - Mandatory reporting of fireworks related injuries. Passed committee, is on second reading.

House Bill #1331 - State Flag to be presented to the family of a deceased member of the military or public safety officer who is killed in the line of duty. It passed the House and is now back in the Senate for an amendment.

House Bill #1605 - Green Lights on vehicles - The bill makes it a Class C infraction to display a flashing or revolving green light on a public or private motor vehicle other than one belonging to an emergency service. On second reading.

House Bill #1625 - Fireworks Bill is dead.

House Bill #1647 - Interpretation of Building Laws - Allows the State Building Commissioner to issue written interpretation of a Building Law whether or not the law is enforced by the county or municipality. Committee report did pass.

House Bill #1657 - Open Burning - Permits open burning of vegetation from agricultural land in an unincorporated area for maintenance purposes.

House Bill #1808 - Definition of nominal compensation for volunteer firefighters. Increases the amount that defines nominal compensation from \$10,000 to \$20,000. On second reading

Senate Bill #355 - Volunteer Fire Department Loans from an Indiana Bond Bank - Adds Volunteer Fire Departments to the list of qualified entities that may enter into financing arrangements with the Indiana Bond Bank. Passed in House Committee.

Senate Concurrent Resolution #32 - Nightclub safety - Assigned to rules and legislative procedures.

House Bill #1218 - Department of Fire and Building Services - Allows the Boiler Pressure Vessel Rules Board to adopt National Boiler Pressure Codes. Amended but did pass.

House Bill #1335 - Gives Fire Marshal's Office powers with respect to Haz Mat. Passed out of committee on second reading.

Senate Bill #548 - Emergency Medical Services - Allows Public Safety Training Board members to appoint designees to represent them at Board hearings. Scheduled for committee April 2.

G. Public Safety Training Institute Report Ivan Nevil

Randy Wood and Jim Schneider have been doing a lot of Haz Mat Awareness and Operations training. Firefighters are being told they need to take the Awareness training before the Operations level training. Pass rate on the Operations test is much higher when the firefighter has already taken the Awareness course.

The #1006 and #1670 Task Force have the Awareness part done with the exception of the Wilderness and Water. They are now starting to write some of the skills for Operations level using the old B.E.R.T. program plus what is in #1006 and #1670. The Ops level is very in depth, but the Technician level will be easier. This program should be done by the time we write the rules.

We have received the new test bank from PTS. We are identifying the ones that have to be validated. When Jim returns from the IFSAC conference, he will start setting up committees to validate the tests.

With some of the Terrorism money, with Director Ralston's approval, we have purchased some wire and wireless cameras. The state police will be involved in the usage of these cameras. The state police were very grateful to our agency for the use of these cameras.

This week Ivan, Tony Pagano and Marilyn will be in the process of interviewing for 2 secretarial positions. One in EMS certification and one in Fire Certification.

Mike Bigler, Ivan, Tony Pagano and Mike Garvey (Manuela Johnson was unable to make the meeting) met and discussed. They identified three areas that they feel the state of IN responders should be knowledgeable in. They are Haz Mat Awareness, Haz Mat Ops and Emergency Response to Terrorism. There will be a meeting tomorrow and this idea will be presented to see how it is accepted.

H. Administrative Proceedings

None at this time

I. Old Business

a. **IFSAC** - Ivan Nevil - Paul Covington said the site visit for IFSAC would be in January 2004. Paul just finished a site visit to Mississippi.

b. **Proposed Rules** - Mara Snyder - Rule promulgation will not be started until the reaccreditation process is finished.

c. **Legislative update** - Legislative update already presented by Marshal Boatwright.

d. **Fire Academy Study** - No report at this time.

e. **FO I/II Committee** - Jerry Nulliner and Tom Hanify. No report at this time.

f. **Proposed language for 24 Hour certification** - No report at this time.

J. New Business

a. **Instructor certification requirements** - Tom Loraine - Ivan stated that we are having a high rate of failure on the Instructor I test on the Indiana questions. It was suggested that Instructors who are going to teach the Instructor I course need to revisit the Indiana question part of the test; possibly making it part of their handout. One suggestion was any firefighter requesting reciprocity for Instructor I will have to take the Indiana test, which will give them knowledge in the areas regarding Indiana rules.

b. **Continuing Education in #1006 standard required for certification level.** - Ivan said the Task Force is still working on the standard. They have some ideas, but have not finalized them. The feeling is that there should be some form of continuing education for all levels of certification that we have.

c. **Cognitive test questions** - Paul Covington - Already addressed

d. **Instructor II/III reciprocity** - Ivan Nevil already discussed.

K. Adjournment

There being no further business, the chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.